

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

To expedite prosecution, Claims 1 and 9 have been amended by incorporating the allowable subject matter from Claims 3 and 11, respectively, and do not represent acquiescence to any claim rejection of record. Specifically, Claims 1 and 9 have been amended to recite that the trialkylmethylammonium comprises a reaction product of trialkylamine and dimethyl carbonate. Claims 3 and 11 have been cancelled. Claims 1-2, 4-10, and 12-13 are pending.

The Office has rejected Claims 1-2, 4, 6-10, and 12-13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 6,410,150 to Kurosawa et al. (hereinafter "Kurosawa") in view of the paragraph bridging pages 3-4 of the current application. The Office has concluded that Claim 5 is allowed and that Claims 3 and 11 are directed to allowable matter. Specifically, the Office has concluded that Claims 3 and 11 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have amended Claims 1 and 9 by incorporating the allowable subject matter from Claims 3 and 11, respectively. Accordingly, applicants submit that independent Claims 1 and 9 as currently amended and any claims dependent thereon, Claims 2, 4, 6-8, 10 and 12-13, are now in condition for allowance.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

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Reply to Office Action of September 26, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John E. Johnson, III", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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